

September 16, 2003

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 24, 2003

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
September 24, 2003**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.	3. Information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. Information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	5. Approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*5A. <u>Approval of July 23, 2003 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approve July 23, 2003 meeting minutes.
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TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*5B. <u>Enhancement Funds Working Group Round XI Recommendations</u>	5B. Approve that ranked applications from the MAG Enhancement Funds Working Group be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Transportation for consideration by the State
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The Enhancement Funds Working Group (EFWG) was formed by the MAG Regional Council in April 1993 to review and recommend a ranked list of Enhancement Fund applications from this region to the State Transportation Enhancement Review Committee (TERC). The Working Group recommends that the attached ranked applications be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for consideration by the TERC. In addition to reviewing and recommending projects to be submitted to the TERC, the EFWG reviews ADOT policies and recommends changes to improve the transportation enhancement program. This year, the Working Group discussed ADOT policies regarding limits on the size of trees used in transportation enhancement projects. The Group recommended that regulations limiting tree size to 15 gallons in all transportation enhancement projects be dropped due to concerns for health, safety and public welfare. The Management Committee concurred with the EFWG. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5C. Proposed Amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement for Highway Projects.

The FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 24, 2002. Since that time, ADOT has been notified that the region has been awarded \$2,980,500 in ITS funding to develop connectivity and interoperability with the AzTech ITS system. Also, the City of Mesa wishes to start development of an Enhancement funded project to design and construct pedestrian pathways, furniture and other amenities in their Downtown area. This project has been incorrectly omitted from the current TIP as being already underway. In order to proceed with these projects, they need to be added to the TIP. Both of the proposed changes may be categorized as exempt projects or minor project revisions for which an air quality conformity analysis is not required. Consultation on the conformity assessment for the proposed

Transportation Enhancement Review Committee, and recommend that regulations limiting tree size to 15 gallons in all transportation enhancement projects be dropped due to concerns for health, safety and public welfare.

5C. Approve an Amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to add a new ITS project for ADOT and an Enhancement project for Mesa.

changes is considered under a separate agenda item. The Management Committee recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

AIR QUALITY ITEMS

*5D. Consultation on Proposed Transportation Conformity Processes for the 2003 MAG Conformity Analysis

Federal and state conformity regulations require that MAG consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies on proposed processes for the conformity analysis on the Transportation Improvement Program and Plan. MAG distributed for comment the proposed processes to be applied in the upcoming conformity analysis for the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan. Comments regarding this material were requested by August 29, 2003. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. For consultation.

*5E. Consultation on Potentially Regionally Significant Projects of the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Federal and state conformity regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations such as MAG to consult with state and local air quality and transportation agencies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Transportation regarding which transportation projects will be considered "regionally significant" for the purposes of regional emissions analysis. Regionally significant projects are subject to conformity requirements. A list of potentially regionally significant projects from the proposed FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program has been prepared. It is requested that comments regarding the list be reported to MAG by August 29, 2003. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5E. For consultation.

*5F. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment to amend the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment is necessary to include new federal Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) funding to develop connectivity and interoperability with the AzTech ITS system. The amendment also includes a City of Mesa transportation enhancement project to design and construct pedestrian pathways, furniture, and other amenities in their Downtown area. Both projects may be categorized as exempt. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5F. For consultation.

GENERAL ITEM

*5G. Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility

The Town of Buckeye is requesting that MAG amend the 208 Water Quality Management Plan to include the Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility. The Maricopa County unincorporated area is within three miles of the project, and the County has indicated they do not object to the proposed facility. On June 5, 2003, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee authorized a public hearing on the draft amendment with provisos. At the July 28, 2003 public hearing, the Town of Buckeye and the City of Goodyear indicated that the provisos from the Water Quality Advisory Committee had been addressed. The Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5G. Approve the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

6A. Review of Comments From Public Involvement Efforts

Since the July 22, 2003 TPC meeting, a series of public meetings/hearings have been held

6A. Information and discussion.

throughout the Valley. Staff will present a summary of the Input Opportunity Report, which contains a comprehensive list of comments and staff responses to comments. Material for this agenda item was previously transmitted in the Transportation Policy Committee packets.

6B. Review of Transportation Survey Results

At the June 18, 2003 TPC meeting, the need for a public survey regarding the Final Draft Stage of the Plan was discussed. On August 15, 2003, a workshop was held to solicit input on the survey questions. The survey was conducted and the results will be reviewed with the members of the TPC. Material for this agenda item was previously transmitted in the Transportation Policy Committee packets.

6C. Approval of Regional Transportation Plan for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis

On September 17, 2003, the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled to recommend the Regional Transportation Plan to the Regional Council for an air quality conformity analysis. This anticipated action by the TPC will culminate a three and one-half year planning effort by MAG and one year of meetings by the TPC. The Plan recommended by the TPC will be forwarded to the Regional Council following the TPC meeting.

6B. Information and discussion.

6C. Approval of the Regional Transportation Plan for an air quality conformity analysis.

GENERAL ITEMS

7. Regional Task Force on Arts and Culture

The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, the Flinn Foundation, J. W. Kiekhefer and the Margaret T. Morris Foundation are sponsoring a Regional Task Force on Arts and Culture. The task force is chaired by Drew Brown of DMB Construction and members include corporate representatives, elected officials, and education and art representatives. The focus of this task force is on the vitality of the arts organizations and integrating recreational and cultural amenities into our communities. A brief update will be provided on the Regional Task Force on Arts and Culture and

7. Information and discussion.

its impact on the region. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Homeland Security Urban Area Assessment

In July, a framework for receiving local elected official input in the FY2003 Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant Program was presented to the Regional Council. This framework involved having Metropolitan Medical Response System cities establish subarea working groups to prepare the needed grant information and for MAG to establish an Urban Area Working Group to review the information. Upon review by the Working Group, the grant information would be sent to the Management Committee and Regional Council for review and comment. Staff will provide an update on the Urban Area Assessment that is due to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by September 30, 2003.

9. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

8. Information.

9. Information.